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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/277,286 03/26/99 STRATHMEYER

C 024/1

EXAMINER

WM02/0328

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AGDEPEA, H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2642

DATE MAILED:

03/28/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/277,286

Applicant(s)

STRATHMEYER ET AL.

Examiner

Hector A. Agdeppa

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 March 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

1. Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
2. Claims 9 and 10 are method claims that depend from an apparatus claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 – 5 and 8 – 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Flisik et al.
4. Regarding claims 1, 4, 8, and 11, Flisik et al. teaches a telephony controller as described and admitted to be prior art by Applicant.
5. Regarding claims 2, 3, and 5, Flisik et al. teaches being able to change a PABX interface or configure a control module 58 and converter control 56 for choosing a proper PABX interface dependent on the telephony environment, wherein the telephony environment could include various PABXs from various vendors. (Col. 3, lines 37 – 50)

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and Col. 11, lines 4 – 21 and Col. 12, lines 43 – 59) Furthermore, these claimed features would be inherent in the invention of Flisik et al. as is an application that is a screen pop application in that it is well known in the art to display data on a computer screen and perform operations accordingly while interacting with menus. (Col. 1, lines 46 – 61)

6. Regarding claims 9 and 10, Flisik et al. teaches applications including call routing (Col. 5, line 48 – Col. 6, line 3) and it is inherent in that database driven applications would be included as part of the call routing applications.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

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8. Claims 6, 7, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flisik et al.

9. Regarding claims 6 and 12, Flisik et al. has been discussed above.

What Flisik et al. does not teach is the ability of a computer telephony server having the ability to interact with telephony environments other than PBXs.

However, a PBX is privately owned but the same equipment could be a Centrex which is part of the PSTN if for example leased. Furthermore, PBXs may use digital communications or be implemented on a digital communications platform which means it is a packet telephony network, and CT servers can even be considered to be analogous to ACDs. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to have implemented the ability to interact with these specific telephony platforms as they are simply variations of a PBX.

10. Regarding claim 7, Applicant admits that Flisik et al. teaches a server capable of communicating with a plurality of different PBXs.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US Pat (5,655,014) Walsh et al. teaches a switching device independent computer-telephone integration system. US Pat (6,151,390) Volftsun et al. teaches protocol conversion using channel associated signaling. US Pat (6,122,363) Friedlander et al. teaches a multi-protocol interface apparatus at a service control point. US Pat (6,069,947) Evans et al. teaches a communication system architecture and


operating protocol therefor. US Pat (5,799,076) Sitters et al. teaches a telecommunications system for providing status information of connected parties having associate party processes. US Pat (6,111,893) Volftsun et al. teaches universal protocol conversion.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hector A. Agdeppa whose telephone number is 703-305-1844. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon thru Fri 9:30am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on 703-305-4731. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-5403 for regular communications and 703-308-5403 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-4700.

H.A.A.
March 25, 2001


AHMAD MATAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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